

House Resolution 368

By: Representatives Chambers of the 81st, Keen of the 179th, Geisinger of the 48th, and Mitchell of the 88th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) to exercise its authority
2 to combine with the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority in order to expedite the
3 delivery of transportation solutions to the people of the State of Georgia; and for other
4 purposes.

5 WHEREAS, there exists in the metropolitan Atlanta area, as well as other areas of the state,
6 serious traffic conditions and congestions and serious mass transportation problems which
7 impede, and will increasingly impede, the development of business and quality of life in the
8 state; and

9 WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority was created by the General
10 Assembly in the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965, approved
11 March 10, 1965 (Ga. L. 1965, p. 2243); and

12 WHEREAS, in Section 3 of the 1965 Act it is declared to be "the public policy of this State,
13 as a matter of public health, safety, convenience and welfare, to promote the establishment
14 of . . . a joint instrumentality [for solving transportation problems, to] encourage participation
15 therein by the local governments involved, . . . and [to] bring about solutions for the
16 aforesaid needs and problems"; and

17 WHEREAS, Sections 24 and 24A of the 1965 Act authorize MARTA to enter into rapid
18 transit agreements and transportation services contracts with certain political subdivisions;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) was created by the
21 General Assembly in the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority Act, approved
22 April 6, 1999 (Ga. L. 1999, p. 112); and

23 WHEREAS, Article 4 of Chapter 32 of Title 50 of the O.C.G.A. authorizes GRTA to enter
24 into agreements with local governments, as authorized by a resolution of the local
25 government, to provide land transportation services within the jurisdiction of the local
26 government; and

27 WHEREAS, concerted and coordinated governmental action is needed to alleviate traffic
28 conditions and congestion and deficiencies in mass transportation, coordinate and balance
29 existing transportation facilities, and otherwise provide a sound basis for the development
30 of traffic patterns and control; and

31 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Belt Line project, the proposed Brain Train project, Cobb
32 Community Transit, C-Tran (Clayton County Transit), and Gwinnett County Transit need
33 to be involved in the plan for congestion reduction and mobility in the metropolitan Atlanta
34 area; and

35 WHEREAS, in this time of limited governmental resources, it is imperative that government
36 demand the most efficient systems for delivery of transportation solutions to the people of
37 this state.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
39 GEORGIA that the members of this body urge the members of the boards of MARTA and
40 GRTA, along with other interested public groups, to negotiate and execute the necessary
41 agreements to combine their resources and operational experience to establish a unified
42 governmental entity to execute the regional and state-wide transportation plans needed to
43 resolve the current stalemate in transportation solutions in this state.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the members of the board
46 of MARTA, GRTA, Cobb Community Transit, Clayton County Transit, Gwinnett County
47 Transit, and the Brain Train project.